

## THE EVENING STAR.

WASHINGTON.

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CROSBY S. NOYES, Editor.

THE EVENING STAR has a regular and permanent Family Circulation and more than 100,000 copies are circulated daily. As a News and Advertising Medium it has no competitor.

27th order to avoid delays, on account of the death of Mr. Gladstone. The STAR should not be addressed to any individual connected with the office, but simply to THE STAR, or to the Editor or Business Department, according to tenor or purpose.

## Death of Mr. Gladstone.

The world loses heavily and yet does not lose by the death of Mr. Gladstone. It profoundly mourns the loss of a truly great man. The personal powers of the scholar, the orator, and the statesman are silenced forever. But the influence of his great character remains. That is imperishable. Wherever men are laboring to do good, to things, to make life cleaner and better, to the betterment of the world, the influence of his character is felt. It is not an unseemly selfishness for us to apply the lesson of this great man's life and all that he stood for and advocated to our own pressing affairs of the day. It is the fittest use to be made for the moment of that lesson. He would, beyond all question, sanction it himself if his voice could be heard. His country's sympathy with us he undoubtedly fully shared. Had he been in health and authority when we struck Spain's shield he would have applauded the act to the echo.

The spirit of Mr. Gladstone is marching with us. We are doing the kind of work which he thought necessary in the world. Wherever there was tyranny he resented it. Wherever there was need of energy and force to throw off that tyranny he advocated their employment. He was a sincere friend of the oppressed in all lands, and raised his voice for them in season and out. He did not escape misrepresentation and calumny. No more shall we. The same falsehoods are being given out about us as were given out about him. He was not affected by the attacks. No more shall we be. What is right is right. If men believe in their cause they can afford to fight for it, and, if necessary, to die for it.

There is inspiration for the American people in all that Mr. Gladstone advocated and represented for the betterment of mankind. It is particularly in that portion of the record made during his closing years when, in higher notes and clearer than ever before, he pleaded for conscience as against expediency in dealing with questions of moral moment and advancement.

## The Oregon.

The Navy Department yields sufficiently from its praiseworthy secrecy to disclose the fact that the Oregon is safe. This is a comforting and important information. It doubtless means that the battle ship has at last arrived within such a distance of a friendly fleet that a junction is expected before the Spanish warships have had a chance to engage the American. Were it not for this announcement from an authoritative source it might readily be supposed that the battle ship's troubles were just about to begin. She has been two months on her way today. Heretofore she has been in no peril whatever. Her course has been long and tedious. She has been forced by the lack of an isthmian canal to cruise along the entire coast line of South America, taking many weeks, whereas as many days would have sufficed had that canal been in service. But there has been no single element of real danger in the whole run aside from the possibility of a wrecking or disabling storm. Until Bahia was reached, at least three-fourths of the way from San Francisco to Key West, there was no likelihood of any collision with a Spanish war vessel. The Temorario frightened some people, to be sure, but they were not well informed as to the amount of equipment or the opportunity of this small craft to cope with so formidable a vessel as the Oregon. Lately, however, the battle ship has been getting into the scene of acute possibility for trouble. She is more than a match, of course, for any single Spanish ship known to be in these waters. She is considered, indeed, as capable of accounting satisfactorily for herself in a brush with even two or three of the largest warships of Spain's navy now within range. But she cannot be accounted "safe" by any means until she is beyond the possibility of such an encounter or until she has effected a junction with one or another of the American forces now in that region. It is probable that this is what has happened. At all events, the department's disclosure means that the Oregon has safely passed through the straits bounded on the west by Cape San Roque and on the east by the Atlantic, where it was feared she might be intercepted by a fleet sent swiftly and secretly from Cadiz, the Canaries or Cape Verde for that purpose.

General Blanco regrets that he is not able to exercise any authority as to the choice of fireworks with which Admiral Cervera is to be received on this side.

The farmer who takes pride in raising tall wheat will never be regarded with nearly the same interest as the young man who raised its price to \$1.50.

## A Friend of America.

The gutter press of Paris belittles the people of the United States. The Berlin press treats us with the patronage it condescends to be due to our wild-eyed immaturity. Spain poses us before the world as pigs. Senor de Loma, after a two years' stay, left us with an affectionate kiss. Senor Polo, after a stay of two months, told the Canadians that he had just left a crazy lot. Lieutenant Du Bose, who accompanied him, characterized the public men of this country as venal and ignorant and ruffianly. Even our own Mr. Bayard once apologized for us to an astonished English audience at a sometimes "violent" people, who needed a stronger hand like that of Mr. Cleveland to hold us down.

Let us put against all of this detraction the testimony of a gentleman of education and character who has lived with us for a quarter of a century discharging official duties of great delicacy and importance, and has come to know the American people intimately. In his leave-taking at the White House yesterday, Senor Mendonca, the retiring Brazilian minister, in an address of unusual beauty and interest, said: "But friends do not part in the solemn hour in which the nation is called to arms with diplomatic forms merely. Moreover, my debt of gratitude to your people and government for the treatment which I have received at your hands during a residence of almost a quarter of a century is so great that I cannot take my leave without expressing to my heart's content my appreciation of your benevolence toward a student of your history and a friend of your country."

"I have seen your country in its days of joy and of sorrow. I saw, at the celebration of the centennial of independence, the past master in the art of war and the great fair of the arts of peace and reveal to the world the double greatness of the nation which in ten years had transformed its arms and guns into implements of industry. I saw the great hero laid to rest in the heart of your great metropolis, amid mourning the whole land, and I witnessed his apotheosis celebrated by the voice of the entire Union. I saw the chief

magistrate of the nation felled by an assassin's hand, and observed the republic continue firm and serene under the empire of the law. In its joy or sorrow the nation did not depart a moment from the confidence in its high destiny.

"I have visited the different regions of your broad land; I know the active men of the east, the open-hearted inhabitants of the west and the chivalrous southerner. It has been my fortune to meet the statesman, the scientist, the artist, the manufacturer, the farmer and the workman. Their common ideal is the honor and greatness of their country.

"Wherever the duty to my beloved country will call me, I can assure you that my heart and strength will be under the empire of the law. I am the standard bearer of the republic of America, who is advancing the progress of human freedom into the last triumphs of the century.

"This most graceful deliverance is reproduced from yesterday's STAR. It is no less cordial than sincere. It is offered by a man whose good opinion the American people most highly prize, and as so handsomely and opportunely expressed they will always in appreciation remember. The President spoke most truly for all the people, when in replying he said:

"I wish for you, Mr. Minister, all personal happiness in your new field of useful duty. May the memories you take with you of the friendship and esteem you have won here be meted by those which lie before you in another land."

Does America agree with foreigners? It depends upon the foreigners. Senor Mendonca came and remained and conquered, and was conquered. He quits us, after twenty-five years, with praise on his lips, and leaves seventy million friends behind him. We quote him with pleasure against all the scurrilous poured out by sneaks and chance sojourners. Single-handed, he answers and disposes of them all.

## Pass the Revenue Bill.

In probably any other country in the world than the United States the delay of the Senate in disposing of the war revenue bill would produce a critical condition. That such a crisis is not produced here by this dilatory course is due first to the general faith of the people in the credit of the government; second, to the fact that the war has not yet progressed sufficiently to create a bankrupting demand upon the government's resources; third, to the general public knowledge of the fact that the Senate in all such matters is proverbially slow, but that it eventually emerges from its state of slowness and acts generally in accordance with the known demands of the nation.

Yet the force of each of these causes of confidence is daily weakening. The treasury cannot forever stand the steady drain upon it that the extraordinary expenditures create. The outgoing year already about a million a day greater than the incoming, while the war expenses are merely in their initial stages of development. The balance available for military purposes, without considering the supposedly immune gold reserve, is approximately \$100,000,000. There is no safe estimation of the period when this balance will suffice for the necessities of the campaign. The rate of outgo may materially increase at any time. The President is said to be about to call for another large volunteer force, and this will greatly add to the expenses of the government.

Money is required in plenty, not only for the needs of the future, but for the unavoidable demands of the present. The bill that was sent to the Senate from the House was so framed as to meet both lines of necessity. It enabled the treasury to provide for all the immediate needs of the war for many months to come, in such manner as would not embarrass the government at any stage of the campaign. The military and the financial adjustments would proceed harmoniously. The Senate committee on finance has radically changed the measure. The issues are well defined between the propositions of the House and those of a majority of the Senate's committee. There is a belief that the amendments, which create an entirely new framework of revenue principles, will not receive the approval of a majority of the Senate. But whether this is true or not, the case is already well understood and delay will give to neither side any appreciable advantage.

The imperative need of action stands forth clearly defined by the nation's urgent requirements. The republic is at war. Political lines have been thrown down in all directions. Parties should be merged temporarily into the American people, and the war calls for action and success cannot be achieved without money. Debate was never so dear, quibbling never so extravagant. Patriotism demands a cessation of effort to complicate the situation for small partisan advantage.

## The Slight Accident to the Charleston

The delay of the cruiser Charleston on account of the temporary disablement of her machinery will not be regarded as important. Admiral Dewey's fleet is in no serious need of immediate help. The aid which he will receive from the Charleston is not of the kind that will enable him to occupy the land defenses and take formal possession of the territory. The Charleston will, of course, add materially to his strength, both by her own presence as a fighting machine and because of the ammunition she carries. The delay is awkward, and especially after there have already been so many postponements of this expedition. The breaks in the engine are such in all likelihood, as often occur after a ship that has been overhauled has been sent to sea. It requires time to get everything in smooth working order, and it is fortunate that the flaws were disclosed before the cruiser had steamed far from port.

The German emperor, it is alleged, never wears the regulation evening dress when he can avoid it, preferring the frock coat. Mr. Bailey of Texas has regarded his habit with suspicion as an effort to infringe.

That the corner in wheat has made bread scarce in Spain cannot be denied. But it will be difficult to decide what military title ought to be bestowed on Mr. Joe Letter for his services in this connection.

Events at the Philippine Islands are too interesting to permit much encouragement of the "to be continued in our next" habit in the government's policy.

General Weyer will hardly refrain from saying, "I told you so," in connection with General Blanco's career.

## The Speech of Pan-Americanism.

The speeches delivered yesterday on the occasion of Senor Mendonca's presentation of his letters of recall as minister from Brazil are remarkable departures from the ordinary routine of diplomatic utterances. The retiring representative of the great South American republic is, however, a notable exception in himself. He has resided in this country in a diplomatic capacity for upwards of a quarter of a century, covered by two terms. He has witnessed, as he said yesterday in the course of his farewell address to the President, great changes here. But even greater changes have occurred in the affairs of his own country, which has emerged from a monarchal condition to the full stature of a republic. Best of all Senor Mendonca has observed the up-growth of a strong sentiment binding together the nations of the two continents. His words of praise for and reliance in the doctrine of Monroeism sound the key-note of this sentiment. Faith in the United States as the most substantial factor in the hemisphere is the basis of this reliance. Thanks for the work already done by this republic in maintaining the national boundaries intact against the encroachments of the powers of Europe finds its expression in the words of hearty respect for the President

and the people whom he represents uttered yesterday by the departing minister. Such occasions, though tinged with personal regrets, are calculated to increase the strength of the American spirit in the new world. Such men as Mendonca and Romero, wisely kept at this capital for long periods by their progressive states, are factors for the permanent betterment of the hemisphere.

"First catch your Spaniard," is a part of the recipe for defeating armadas to which the flotilla's management is disposed to attach a great deal of importance.

Possibly the sea serpent will run into some of the derelict mounds along the Jersey coast, thus giving the public an opportunity to inspect it at leisure.

General Merritt recognized the fact that people who start in as insurgents on principle are in danger of becoming such through force of habit.

The ease with which Admiral Dewey got around the bottling process may cause the assumption that some of his ancestors were Kentuckians.

Up to the present time the board of strategy has not provoked near the hostility that a board of lady managers would have aroused.

## SHOOTING STARS.

## An Unhappy Reminder.

"There were some remarkable old carvings in that collection of bric-a-brac," remarked the art enthusiast. "I'm glad I didn't see 'em," remarked the young man with black-rimmed eye-glasses. "I have too much to interest me in that line whenever we have spring chicken at our house."

## Summer Sadness.

In autumn we lament the tree which dies 'neath skies so chill and gray. But now it's even worse to see Our collars droop and fade away.

## Their Style of Ammunition.

"Did you say you found a large amount of fighting equipment on that newspaper man?" asked the Spanish officer. "Yes, sir. There were enough lead pencils and blank paper to have enabled us to win half a dozen victories."

## A Phenomenon.

Bread seems to find a curious fate. When times are getting tighter It's price grows heavier, while its weight Too oft, alas, grows lighter.

## Holding Out.

"Don't you think it would be well for us to surrender?" inquired the Spanish officer at Havana. "Surrender!" echoed his superior. "I wouldn't think of such a thing—until we have gotten what there is to be made by speculation in food supplies."

## Out of Date.

War makes some curious changes. There's a feller that we miss, A person you'd have thought 'ud say a lot in times like this; But he ain't down to the railroad station, nor the general store, Nor any place where he was 'customed to hang out of yore.

He allus talked amazin' slick, a-tellin' of his plan Fur savin' of his country, of we'd only 'lect his man. 'Twas thrillin', how he'd give away the opposition's tricks, The feller who would come around a-talkin' politics.

I ain't seen nothin' of 'im, nor heard anythin' at all. 'Bout it's been 'time to rally to the party at its call. I kind o' thought 'im an' the folks that sent him here to speak Was all that kep' this country from becomin' ruther weak.

He useter tell what work 't would take to save this land of ours. But it seems all hands is ready to bestow their highest powers.

The present time an' arguments like his don't seem to interest 'im. An' perhaps he's gone to fightin', 'stid o' talkin' politics.

## Inadequate Military Provision.

From the Philadelphia Press.

Now that the country knows just how war feels, it is wise, it is prudent, it is safe to have a fifth-class fleet and no army whatever? This is the question of the moment. We are making an army after declaring war, and our fleet is barely big enough to meet Spain's. Our risks grow as our power increases, and our army and navy must grow with our risks. A first-class power must have a first-class fleet. It does it. It will never have to waste time and stop business to fight a fifth-class power like Spain. An army of 100,000 men would have prevented this war and given security from attack. Yet Congress has foolishly proposed to fight a war with a fleet that shall fall back to 25,000 men. Yet Congressmen chatter about a vigorous foreign policy. What unmitigated nonsense such policy would be for a country with a weak fleet and no army.

## The Helplessness of Torpedo Boats.

From the New York Commercial Advertiser.

Torpedo boats are terrible in offense, but powerless in defense. This will be realized more fully than now before the end of the war. The incident of the Winslow shows how helpless a torpedo boat is when an enemy gains a fair chance to make her a target. Torpedo boats are the most dangerous in the navy, especially in reconnoitering duty up shallow harbors. The temptation is strong to use torpedo boats in shoal water, where they can do the most work that gunboats cannot do. With all this understood, young naval officers prefer torpedo boats service to any other. Any young lieutenant would rather command a 200-ton torpedo boat and take his chance of the fate of Ensign Bagley than be executive officer of a 1,000-ton battle ship. The race of heroes is not so extinct.

## Very Probably.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The Nicaragua canal, if built, would help the United States greatly these days. It would shorten by many miles the distance to be traversed by our war vessels in passing from our eastern coast to our western line. If this canal had been in existence the Oregon would have arrived at Key West several weeks ago, and Sampson's squadron would be strengthened to this extent. We could send ships from Cuba to reinforce Dewey. If he was threatened, quicker than Spain could send vessels from Cadiz to his vicinity. The military advantages which the canal would afford to the United States in the present war would almost equal, if transmuted into money, the cost of its construction. There is a very strong probability that the United States will build the canal soon after this war ends.

## Smokeless Powder.

From the Providence Journal.

Apparently neither our fleet nor the Spaniards used much smokeless powder at San Juan. The story of the bombardment refers to the smoke of the guns on the warships and of those on land. Describing the atmosphere as at times so clouded that the gunners could not readily make out the target points at which they were aiming. If that is so the government had better make haste to supply the improved powder. The waste of projectiles owing to the condition described in the report of the United States would be a serious matter.

## Dewey's American Time-Piece.

From the St. Louis Republic.

If there be those among us who regret Dewey's victory because it was won on a Sunday, let them reflect that the great admiral carried an American watch into the Philippines as well as an American heart. This being the case, his time showed him that it was Saturday instead of Sunday. So that makes everything all right.

## Specials.

You get satisfaction when you buy at Hoeke's.

We are not competitors of anybody who disregards quality. But if value is considered nobody can undersell us—if even they will sell as low. We are very fortunately facilitated—with direct dealings with the manufacturers.

## Proofs:

An Antique Chamber Suite, well made and nicely finished; good value at \$14.75.

French dresser; good value at \$40—\$47.

Brass-trimmed Enamel Beds; you can match them at the price now \$29.95.

Solid Oak Sideboard, and as big a bargain as we ever had to offer. \$9.90.

Choice of several patterns of regular 40c. Tapestry Carpet..... 49c.

40 yards Straw Matting..... \$3.98.

We make Screens to order. We make Furniture Covers. You'll be surprised at the littleness of the cost.

Don't forget the WISCONSIN PEERLESS when you want a Refrigerator—nor THE WHITNEY when you want a Baby Carriage. Both are bests.

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